

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 402

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION To recognize Roy and Shirley Hornsby and George Crews, owners of Hicks Composition Service, on the occasion of their retirement and the closing of the business.

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who in their years of work have performed with uncommon skill and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, Roy and Shirley Hornsby and George Crews, owners of Hicks Composition Service, are stellar examples of such consummate professionalism, having worked in the printing business for most of their adult lives; the Hornsbys bought Hicks Composition Service in 1984 and George Crews joined them two years later; and

WHEREAS, Roy Hornsby began working in the printing industry in St. Petersburg, Florida, as a child; he worked in the composition room at *The Commercial Appeal* for more than 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hornsby, a graduate of the University College at the University of Memphis, is a 44-year member of the International Typographic Union (ITU), which later merged with the Communications Workers of America (CWA); and

WHEREAS, Shirley Hornsby worked as a typesetter in Sikeston, Missouri in 1958; in 1963, she moved to Memphis to work for *The Commercial Appeal*; she is a 47-year union member; and

WHEREAS, George Crews embarked upon his printing career in Missouri, although he has lived in Memphis for more than 40 years; he is President of the Memphis Typographical Union #11; and

WHEREAS, The Hornsbys' and George Crews' closing of Hicks Composition Service signals the end of an era; the business came with two linotypes, a generation of machines invented in Baltimore in 1884 that produce a metal slug that corresponds to a single line of type; one linotype was immediately junked and was replaced by an Intertype, the same sort of machine; and

WHEREAS, The business went on to acquire an Itek photo typesetting machine, followed by a Compugraphics machine that shows the product while it is being composed; a hard press and a Miehle vertical press rounded out the equipment; and

WHEREAS, Hicks Composition customers were low-end printers who used the business's technology long after most of the industry had moved to in-house desktop publishing and the services of nationwide wholesalers; although orders were still coming in less than a week before closing, their departure means the end of an era of printing technology in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Roy and Shirley Hornsby are building a house by a lake for their retirement years; Roy plans to experiment with photography and Shirley looks forward to her church activities and working in the yard; and

WHEREAS, George Crews anticipates spending more time with his family, fishing, and pursuing his activities in the Optimist Club; and

WHEREAS, Throughout their estimable careers, Mr. and Mrs. Hornsby and Mr. Crews have demonstrated remarkable skill in their conduct of the printing profession throughout its

dramatic technological evolution during the twentieth century, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of their professional peers and their loyal customers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we extend to Roy and Shirley Hornsby and George Crews our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.